

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Assaf DEKEL  
Serial Number: 10/031,450  
I.A. Filing Date: August 1, 2000  
Title: Method and Apparatus for Spinal Procedures  
Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington DC 20231

#4  
By AMEUS  
A

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Further to a response to Notification of Missing Requirements dated April 1, 2002, kindly amend the application as follows prior to examination:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly add the following, on page 1, immediately after the title:

A1  
-RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a U.S. national application of PCT/IL00/00458, filed August 1, 2000.—

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly replace the present claims 4, 6-10, 14-29, 32-42, 44-55 with the following claims in clean form:

A2  
4. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a shield adjacent said rasp, to prevent contact of said rasp with tissue at at least some locations along said rasp.

A3  
6. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said rasp is positioned between said shield and said handle, such that said rasp has an at least partially unshielded active face towards said handle.

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)</b>			Docket No. 110/02847		
Applicant(s): <b>Assaf DEKEL</b>					
Serial No. 10/031,450	Filing Date August 1, 2000	Examiner Not yet assigned	Group Art Unit Not yet assigned		
Invention: <b>METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SPINAL PROCEDURES</b>					
<u><b>TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b></u>					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Entity status of this application has been established under 37 CFR 1.27 by a verified statement previously submitted. <input type="checkbox"/> A verified statement to establish Small Entity status under 37 FR 1.27 is enclosed.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	56 -	66 =	0 x	\$9.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	1 -	1 =	0 x	\$42.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>03-3419</b> A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.					
<i>Paul Fenster</i> _____ Signature <b>Paul FENSTER Reg. No. 33,877</b>			Dated: <b>July 31, 2002</b>		
<b>William H. Dippert, Esq.</b> <b>Reed Smith LLP</b> <b>599 Lexington Avenue, 29th Floor</b> <b>New York, NY 10022-7650</b>  <b>Tel. No. (212) 521-5400</b>			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">         I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on <b>7-31-02</b> with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.   <i>William H. Dippert</i>          _____          Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence   <b>WILLIAM H. DIPPERT</b>          _____          Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence       </div>		
cc:					